

To members of the Public Safety and Security Committee, Since the Newtown shooting, state lawmakers have chosen to pursue their political agenda of gun control. It seems that no rational thinking or logic is being used to create these useless feel-good laws that only restrict the freedoms of a law-abiding citizen and do nothing to prevent future tragedies. I oppose Bill number 506. Bill number 506 assumes that we are not responsible enough to know who we are selling to. Or that we are knowingly committing a criminal act. Since this law will only be followed by law-abiding citizens, I believe it presumes guilt first. In America, we citizens are presumed innocent until proven guilty. The burden of proof is on the state. Bill number 897, I believe creates a de facto database of the firearms we possess. Bill number 6251 can't and will not prevent criminals from misusing firearms. Criminals will not submit themselves to any criminal background check. Did Adam Lanza submit himself to a background check? Or get fingerprinted? No. Next, bill number 1076. This bill is just an expansion of the already existing Connecticut assault weapons ban. These "so called" assault weapons are semiautomatic firearms. They are not military style firearms. So this bill by its nature is factually incorrect, and all it does is expand on Connecticut's already existing so-called assault weapons ban which did nothing to stop Adam Lanza from committing his crime. Nor did the federal assault weapons ban stop the Columbine shooting. There are millions of semiautomatic firearms in circulation already. Bill number 1076 is so expansive and so overwhelming, the average law abiding citizen will unknowingly probably break or violate any one of these provisions of the bill because it is very difficult to understand. It is ambiguous. And I believe it is ambiguous by design. There are already 20,000 gun laws on the books, state local and federal government. Enforce these. We must stop our revolving door justice system. Too many soft on crime judges. Too many irresponsible parole boards. We need to enforce truth in sentencing. Stop the practice of plea bargaining. Change mental health laws. We have a breakdown of the family unit. Because of these broken homes, society has become immoral. And we have a government that is all too willing to throw God out of the public form. Violent influences through video games and media. But to address these other areas or influences, might just be too much hard work for you, and maybe require unpopular, difficult choices. I strongly oppose a limit on magazine capacity. The limit on magazine capacity will prevent nothing, except maybe the defense of another state created victim. What if there are multiple attackers or if you are handicapped and unable to reload? What if you miss? What if the attacker is wearing body armor? A crazed killer is fixated and driven to the task, often in a sense of calm, oblivious to his surroundings. He calmly does his reload, which is easy if you train enough. But when someone is being victimized they are not, maybe even trembling. I would like to see you reload when someone is trying to kill you. Next the state will be telling us that in a hand-to-hand fight we can only throw 10 punches, otherwise will be accused of using excessive force. A 10 round Magazine limit is like telling you the next time someone is trying to beat you to death, you could only punch them back 10 times. Insane, is it not? There are already millions of high capacity magazines in circulation. You will only limit the law-abiding and never stop or prevent any criminal actions. You will be responsible for the creation of another criminal enterprise, the black market. Do not support any limits or choices on firearms, ammunition, accessories. No registrations, no restrictions, no more attacking the freedoms of law abiding citizens for the actions or expected actions of criminals or the mentally insane. If gun-control laws can stop future crimes, just rename them murder control laws, and then we will live in a peaceful utopia.

Respectfully, Mike Santangelo, Prospect.